

ABSTRACT

A magnetoresistive spin-valve sensor is  
constructed to include a magnetic layer, a specular  
5 layer made of a metal oxide, a back layer made of Au,  
Cu, AuCu, AgCu, AuAgCu or an alloy thereof and  
interposed between the magnetic layer and the  
specular layer, and a metal layer disposed adjacent  
to the specular layer, opposite to the back layer,  
10 and made of a metal which improves GMR performance  
of the magnetoresistive spin-valve sensor.

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